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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Y. WATANABE et al.

Serial No.: 09/930,161

Filed: August 16, 2001

For: DATA SYNCHRONIZATION DETECTION DEVICE, INFORMATION  
RECORDING DEVICE, INFORMATION REPRODUCTION DEVICE,  
INFORMATION RECORDING FORMAT, SIGNAL PROCESSING  
DEVICE, INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCING  
DEVICE, AND INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM

Group: 2637

Examiner: D. Lugo

**REQUEST FOR REFUND**

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 17, 2006

Sir:

Applicants request a refund in the above-identified application due to an error on the part of the Patent Office.

On November 17, 2005, Applicants filed an Amendment. The List of Claims contained 5 independent claims and 17 total claims. Applicants paid for 5 independent claims when the application was filed on August 16, 2001. It is noted that claim 7 is dependent on claim 1.

However, the Applicants' representatives' Monthly Statement of Account for November 30, 2005 (copy enclosed) indicates that Deposit Account 50-1417 was charged for one extra independent claim in excess of three (Fee Code 1201).

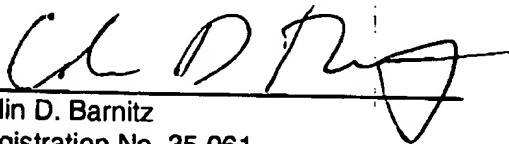
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U.S. Application No. 09/930,161

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Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. D. Barnitz', is written over a horizontal line.

Colin D. Barnitz  
Registration No. 35,061

CDB/sdb  
(703) 684-1120

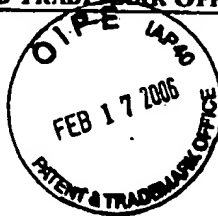
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